

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
DECEMBER 8, 2014
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196 was held in the High School Library at 5:30 PM on Monday, December 8, 2014. The meeting was called to order by President Chris Gore.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Malinee called the roll with the following result:

Members Present: Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey

Members Absent: Loucks

Staff Present: W. Choate, J. Henry, J. Logsdon, V. Malinee, T. Witcher, M. Sample, B. Dilliner

Visitors Present: Kevin Dudley, Dana Dudley, Donald Smith

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

President Gore asked for any visitor's comments. None were forthcoming.

NEW BUSINESS

CONDUCT STUDENT DISCIPLINARY HEARING(S): A motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Gulley to appoint School Board President Chris Gore to preside over two student disciplinary hearings.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: At 5:36 PM, a motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Gulley to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a) Student disciplinary cases (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey, Gore, Gulley

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 6:15 PM, a motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Kelly to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

DETERMINATION OF BOARD REGARDING STUDENT DISCIPLINARY HEARING (STUDENT SV2015-JHS1): A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Kelly that Student SV2015-JHS1 be found to have violated school rules by gross disobedience or misconduct under circumstances so related to the school program so as to warrant discipline.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: At 6:17 PM, a motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Stacey to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a) Student disciplinary cases (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Robbins, Stacey, Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 7:04 PM, a motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Robbins to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

BOARD ACTION REGARDING STUDENT DISCIPLINARY HEARING (STUDENT SV2015-JHS1): A motion was made by Hicks and seconded by Robbins to expel Student SV2015-JHS1 for a period of seven and a half months, more or less, commencing at 12:01 AM on December 13, 2014, and ending on July 31, 2015 at 11:59 PM.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey, Gore

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: At 7:06 PM, a motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Gulley to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-57).
- b) Student disciplinary cases (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey, Gore, Gulley

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 7:22 PM, a motion was made by Gulley and seconded by Robbins to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

DETERMINATION OF BOARD REGARDING STUDENT DISCIPLINARY HEARING (STUDENT SV2015-HS1): A motion was made by Gulley and seconded by Stacey that Student SV2015-HS1 be found to have violated school rules by gross disobedience or misconduct under circumstances so related to the school program so as to warrant discipline.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Robbins, Stacey, Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: At 7:24 PM, a motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Stacey to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing the following exceptions to the Open Meetings Act:

- a) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-57).
- b) Student disciplinary cases (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9))

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Robbins, Stacey, Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: At 8:13 PM, a motion was made by Robbins and seconded by Kelly to reconvene from closed session.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

BOARD ACTION REGARDING STUDENT DISCIPLINARY HEARING (STUDENT SV2015-HS1): A motion was made by Robbins and seconded by Gulley to expel Student SV2015-HS1 for a period of one year and seven and a half months, more or less, commencing at 12:01 AM on December 13, 2014, and ending on July 31, 2016 at 11:59 PM.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey, Gore

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Kelly approving the minutes of the previous meetings: November 10, 2014 (Regular Board Meeting); Treasurer's report; bills in the amount of \$233,983.94 and salaries in the amount of \$401,008.42; adoption of a resolution referencing disposition of obsolete school equipment; approval of a Teen REACH field trip request; adoption of resolution authorizing final aggregate tax levy for year 2014; adoption of resolution authorizing tax levy for fire prevention, safety, energy conservation, disabled accessibility, school security and specified repair purposes for year 2014; adoption of a resolution authorizing tax levy for tort immunity for year 2014; and adoption of a resolution authorizing tax levy for special education purposes for year 2014, as presented.

Roll call voting was as follows:

Yeas: Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey

Nays: None

There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TRANSPORTATION BID SPECIFICATIONS: Superintendent Henry reviewed the transportation bid specifications, outlining the changes from the previous specifications. Information regarding the timelines for the mandatory pre-bid meeting, the due date for the bids, the date of the public bid opening, and the estimated date for the awarding of the contract was discussed. A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Gulley to approve student transportation bid specifications, as presented.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

PERSONNEL

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEE MATERNITY LEAVE REQUEST (KELLY, KELLY): A motion was made by Gulley and seconded by Stacey to approve the maternity leave request of Kelly Kelly, as presented.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF EMPLOYEE RESIGNATION (MCKEE, MICHAEL): Superintendent Henry outlined the district's procedure for employment & non-renewal/discharge of first-year out-of-district coaches to comply with a collective bargaining agreement. He indicated that, had Coach McKee not resigned, he would have been non-renewed or discharged in Spring, 2015, because he is a first-year out-of-district coach. In this procedure, performance is not considered, and non-renewal/discharge is borne out of compliance with a bargaining agreement. In either case, coaches may, at their option, reapply for employment. A motion was made by Hicks and seconded by Kelly to acknowledge the following employee resignation:

- HS Football Coach: Mike McKee

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

ESTABLISHMENT OF EMPLOYER SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYEE WORK LIMITATION: A motion was made by Stacey and seconded by Gulley to limit substitute employees to working no more than four (4) full days per calendar week unless otherwise approved by the board or its designee, the district superintendent, said limitation to be effective on and after January 1, 2015.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.

REPORTS

SEA: No report.

LABORERS' LOCAL 773: No report.

CUSTODIAL & MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: Terry Witcher, Maintenance Supervisor, discussed his December 31, 2014 retirement date. Board members thanked Terry for his 30 plus years of dedicated service to the district and complimented his ability to keep the grounds and facilities at the best possible shape for so many years. Terry thanked the board members and administration for their support in these efforts.

K-8 PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Logsdon, Elementary/JH Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, recent events/activities, upcoming activities, and the SAP (Student Assistance Program) Christmas report. The most recent copies of the S-V Happenings were presented to the board members.

H.S. PRINCIPAL: Mr. Choate, High School Principal, presented information regarding the following to the board: Trust fund, list of students receiving special achievements and awards, upcoming calendar entries, and past activities.

SUPERINTENDENT: Mr. Henry, Superintendent, presented the following information to the board:

1. The consent agenda for this month's meeting includes the following additional item(s):
 - a. Approval of a resolution regarding disposition of obsolete school equipment;
 - b. Approval of a Teen REACH program field trip request;
 - c. Approval of the 2014 tax levy resolutions.
2. The transportation bid specification preparation meeting with interested transportation contractors was held on Wednesday, October 29, 2014, at 9:00 AM. Draft bid specifications for student transportation services were included in the board packet. A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2015, and bids will be due at 12:30 PM on Wednesday, February 11, 2015. A public bid opening will be held that same afternoon (1:30 PM). Superintendent Henry indicated that he anticipates awarding a transportation bid for 2015-2016 (and beyond) in February or March of 2015.
3. On Monday, November 17, 2014, District Athletic Director Chip Basso held a meeting with interested coaches and potential volunteer assistant coaches about the possible expansion of the district's character coaching program. Roger Lipe, Southern Illinois FCA director, presented a program about team building strategies. Mr. Basso reported that the meeting was very informative and successful, and that he believes that, through careful, deliberate planning, this program can be expanded into other school athletic activities.
4. Following the adoption of the 2014 tax levy, final levy information will be filed with both the Franklin County & Jefferson County clerks.
5. Presented to the board members, as a separate document, was Superintendent Henry's annual evaluation of student performance. Information will be reviewed during the meeting.

PRESENTATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

Mr. Henry presented a report regarding the 2014 ISBE School Report Card for the district, which included student performance on standardized tests (ISAT & PSAE), successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, and drop-out rates. He reported to the Board on his findings as to student performance and his recommendations for curriculum or instructional changes as a result of his evaluation of student performance. Superintendent Henry indicated that he was starting to doubt the state's ability to assess and to provide meaningful data due to the disconnect from test to test (three different tests in three different years). He stated that he did not have much confidence in the data provided from these tests.

Mrs. Logsdon presented a report regarding the 2014 ISBE School Report Card for both the elementary and junior high schools, which included student performance on standardized tests (ISAT), successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, and drop-out rates. She reported to the Board on her findings as to student performance and her recommendations for curriculum or instructional changes as a result of her evaluation of student performance.

Mr. Choate presented a report regarding the 2014 ISBE School Report Card for the high school, which included student performance on standardized tests (PSAE), successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, and drop-out rates. He reported to the Board on his findings as to student performance and his recommendations for curriculum or instructional changes as a result of his evaluation of student performance.

Discussion followed regarding the areas of concern and how the district is addressing those concerns.

OLD BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding the number of applicants (internal applicants; complete applications) for the High School Principal vacancy and the Maintenance Supervisor vacancy was held.

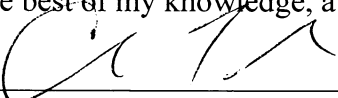
ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Gulley and seconded by Stacey to adjourn.

Voting was as follows: All voted yea. There being six (6) yeas and zero (0) nays, the president declared that the motion carried.


The meeting adjourned at 9:54 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, December 8, 2014 at 5:30 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President



Board Secretary

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING THE
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
NEED FOR AND USAGE OF FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY TAX FUNDS
DECEMBER 8, 2014
5:20 PM**

A public hearing regarding the need for and usage of Fire Prevention and Safety tax funds, as required by Section 17-2.11 of the Illinois School Code, was held at Sesser-Valier High School, 4626 State Highway 154, Sesser, Illinois, beginning at 5:20 PM on Monday, December 8, 2014.

Members Present: Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey

Members Absent: Loucks

Staff Present: W. Choate, J. Henry, J. Logsdon, V. Malinee, T. Witcher, M. Sample

Visitors Present: Kevin Dudley, Dana Dudley, Donald Smith

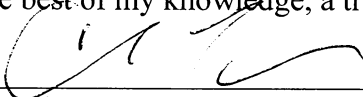
Superintendent Henry called the public hearing to order at 5:20 PM. He explained that it is a legal requirement to hold this hearing when Fire Prevention and Safety tax funds are levied. Several future projects that are necessary and are funded through the Fire Prevention and Safety fund were presented and discussed. Superintendent Henry indicated that there are not sufficient funds available in the fire prevention and safety fund to finance the repairs needed.

Superintendent Henry asked for any public comment or question. None were forthcoming.

Superintendent Henry closed the hearing at 5:24 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the public hearing of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, December 8, 2014, at 5:20 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President



Board Secretary

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING THE PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE
(TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING)
FOR
SESSER-VALIER COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 196
DECEMBER 8, 2014
5:25 PM**

A public hearing regarding the proposed tax levy increase for Sesser-Valier Unit School District No. 196 for 2014 was held at the K-12 complex at 5:25 PM on Monday, December 8, 2014.

Members Present: Gore, Gulley, Hicks, Kelly, Robbins, Stacey

Members Absent: Loucks

Staff Present: W. Choate, J. Henry, J. Logsdon, V. Malinee, T. Witcher, M. Sample

Visitors Present: Kevin Dudley, Dana Dudley, Donald Smith

Superintendent Henry called the Truth in Taxation public hearing to order at 5:25 PM. He indicated that the purpose of this meeting was to hear any public input on the levy increase. He explained that a tentative levy was adopted last month by the board with a 10.00% increase in operating funds with an overall levy increase (including debt service levy) of 8.94%.

Superintendent Henry asked for any public comments or questions. None were forthcoming.

Superintendent Henry closed the hearing at 5:29 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

The above-listed account of the public hearing of the Board of Education of Sesser-Valier Community Unit School District No. 196, held on Monday, December 8, 2014, at 5:25 PM, is, to the best of my knowledge, a true and accurate account of the aforementioned meeting.



Board President



Board Secretary